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Media Release:

Blackwater Art Society celebrates 10 years of showcasing local artists

On 16 October, around 150 art enthusiasts came together to celebrate local creativity at the opening night of the annual Blackwater Art Society Art Exhibition at the Blackwater International Coal Centre (BICC).

The event offered an evening of art and live music and provided an opportunity to view a diverse collection of works created by talented local artists. Many artworks are available for purchase, and the exhibition remains on display until 6 November.

Yarrabee Coal was proud to support the arts event for another year as it celebrates the region's creative community.

Karen Long, President of Blackwater Art Society was thrilled with the success of the exhibition so far.

"Our art exhibition is in its tenth year and year-on-year we are delighted with the interest and support we receive from local businesses and the wider community.

"It is a free, family friendly event that celebrates art and culture. The pieces are for sale, and we welcome the community to come in and check out the artworks, Monday to Friday from 9am to 2pm.

"As a local organisation, we aim to offer a friendly art space that connects a diverse range of people through art. Our artists range in capability from beginner to experienced and we are lucky to have many local artists who are happy to share their knowledge and assist others.

"The exhibition is always a culmination of all the hard work our talented members put into their vibrant artworks, and we look forward to it every year.

"Yarrabee has been a strong supporter of ours for five years and we are thankful for their ongoing funding to help make this event happen," said Karen.

The Blackwater Art Society was established in 1968 and is a friendly, not-for-profit community art club. Artists are welcome to join in the regular art workshops and classes including Friday Night Fun, After School Art Classes for students, Paint 'n' Sips and Master Artists in their various mediums (Acrylic, Watercolor, Mixed Media, Pastels, Pottery, Sculpture and many more).

Yarrabee Coal Operations Manager, Mike Priestly, was proud to support the arts and culture event.

"Community art spaces play a significant role in bringing people together. They encourage creativity, collaboration and can improve community wellbeing.

“We want to support projects and organisations that make a positive impact on the community, so we are pleased to work with the Blackwater Art Society,” said Mike.

The funding support is part of the Yancoal Yarrabee Community Support Program, which aims to make a difference in the community and to the lives of the people who work and live in the areas where it operates.

Yancoal is proud to be investing into local and regional Australia, helping build stronger communities across the country.

For over 20 years since 2004, Yancoal has grown to be one of Australia’s largest coal exporters: owning or operating eight producing mines across the country, employing over 5,500 Australians, contributing to the national economy, and investing in regional communities.

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